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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2016

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Mayor Barrett and Commissioner of Health to Join Advocates and Survivors for Denim Day Denim Day Milwaukee part of international day to support survivors, challenge myths around sexual assault

MILWAUKEE – Residents citywide will be wearing jeans for a great cause on Wed., April 27, as the City of Milwaukee joins local advocates and survivors to kick off Denim Day Milwaukee, a day to support survivors of sexual assault and challenge the myths that surround assault.

This year, Denim Day Milwaukee, co-chaired by Mayor Tom Barrett and Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker, focuses on engaging men and boys in the work to end sexual violence. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that more than half of rapes and assaults go unreported, a common reason being that many victims feel they won't be believed or they will be blamed for their attack. Raising awareness is the first step toward prevention.

Participants are encouraged to share photos of themselves wearing denim on social media using the hashtag #DenimDayMKE. Additional information can be found on the <u>Denim Day Facebook page</u> and at <u>www.denimdaymke.org</u>.

WHAT: Denim Day Milwaukee Kick-off

WHEN: Wednesday, April 27

TIME: 11 a.m.

LOCATION: Pathfinders, 4200 N. Holton St., Milwaukee

SPEAKERS: Mayor Tom Barrett

Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker

Tim Baack, Pathfinders

Nicole Angresano, United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County

Mark Huber, Aurora Health Care

Charles Russell, Survivor

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